

Tenants meeting Green Elephant

18/02/2016

Apologies – Jonny Murton, Mandy Reeves.

Present – Fiona Frank , Adele Armistead, Lynne Shaw, artist – just signed up for a studio, wanting to get feet under table... Chris Coates... shares a studio and office upstairs, director of GE, and caretaker/site manager. Sue Garner – teach yoga here on Monday. Stuart Parkinson, Linda and Fraser Smalley – Linda looking at taking on the café with her social enterprise. Elizabeth Dawson.

New tenants – Lynne Shaw, Martin Hunt.

1. Refurbishments on ground floor. Seminar room – underfloor heating done, painting etc. In next couple of weeks internal stairs and mezzanine barrier to be sorted, painting in atrium has been done – many thanks to Chris and Paul.
2. Café – plans were shown.
3. Hive – explanations about the new arrangements (moving to 2.1 after the art room has moved to 2.9). Stuart asked about the printer doing long runs – will it disturb people in there? To review. [update: dates of moves: Art room moving c w/e 19th March, James doing networking 19 Mar-10 April, Hive moving c. Monday 11th April].
4. Question – what about if the atrium is booked how would people access the café?(Through the outside doors if necessary.)
5. New room proposal – possible Hive rental by Will and Rebecca [update – now confirmed]. They will make a presentation of their ideas to tenants/members in the near future. Question: are we going to close the upstairs kitchenette? Answer: not until we have been working the new café and internal stairs for a few months to see how it goes.
6. Right to Roam – Adele and Fiona talked about the ‘right to roam’ and how it would work. Sue felt it was really helpful to have the diagram... important to show the full value of the whole space. (See diagram currently in kitchenette, and speak to Adele/Fiona/Alison). Comments – it’s good to encourage people to meet. We could include professional development and skill-swap. It’s something that is happening in other similar spaces.
7. Café – Fiona talked about the background and what had happened up to now (experiment in December, partly abandoned because of the power cut, partly not financially viable). Linda Smalley talked about her social enterprise which encourages vulnerable people to flourish who haven’t up to now been able to learn to cook – because of literacy difficulties, learning disabilities, or change in life circumstances. She is interested in looking for a space where she can bring people who need to learn to cook and need positive work experiences and where they can come and enjoy cooking great food and where people would enjoy eating it. She has done work in a community centre in Morecambe where she made sure that everyone ate the food that had been made ; some vulnerable people had never had the chance of doing things for others. She is interested in seasonal, healthy food, low food miles,

she uses 'cookeracy' where you learn 'the literacy of cooking' – no barriers. She has one of the partners she works with who'd like to send people here who would learn to cook here – could deliver the food that that produces. Questions: Is it accessible, what height are the surfaces?

Questions/comments.

- It seems to work very well with what we are looking for. It might also work for giving people bar experience.
 - She also loves making bread and teaching people to make bread – would like to run breadmaking days.
 - It feels like it fits in perfectly with the retreat idea and the whole ethos.
 - Could also do deliveries locally.
 - We will continue to talk with Linda to see if we can make this work for us both.
8. If we offer marketing help for events, if there is a new pricing structure and "Right to Roam"/membership info, if we support new events financially, it should be on our website. (Action, FF to work with Alison)
 9. AOB – no any other business. Meeting ended at 2.30.
 10. Dates of next meetings:
Thursday 18th April, 1.30 p.m.; Thursday 2nd June, 1.30 p.m. (AGM).